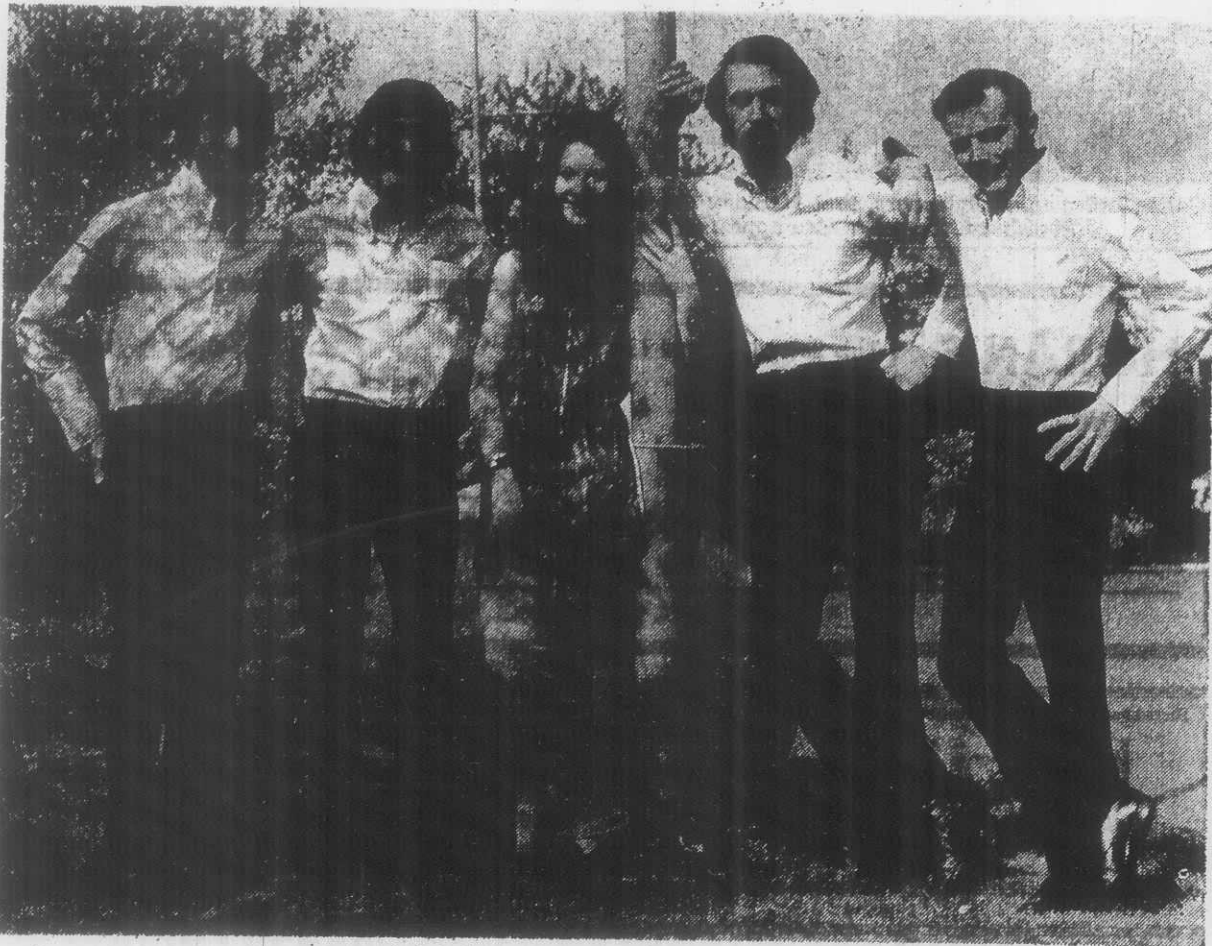


DANCING TIME — By E.C.

AROUND THE BALLROOMS

# SPOTLIGHT ON THE FARRAN FOLK



For the past three years, four talented young men from Limerick have been making quite a name for themselves in the local ballad scene.

With their headquarters in Geary's Hotel, then Kitch Inn was the rendezvous of devotees of the unique type of entertainment which the boys were serving up at regular intervals.

Scariff and Kildimo, were other centres where their balladry was highly appreciated.

Then came the moment of decision. They decided to enter for the 1970 Kilkenny Beer Festival Ballad Competition.

Against a formidable entry of almost 80 groups from all over Ireland they found themselves coming up to semi-final-time in company with groups who had

attained second and third places respectively in previous contests in the fair City of Kilkenny.

## Tension

But the lads were not nervous. They kept their heads as the tension grew and the moments ticked away before the final announcements were made.

Then it happened.

"The Farran Folk" have won first prize — they heard an announcer say—and the rest was drowned in a wave of applause which one of them told me "will remain a cherished memory as long as I live."

Minutes later—after they had received first prize — offers began to pour in from places as

widely departed as Dublin, Galway and Waterford.

Manager Damien Patterson told me that it seemed that hotel and function room managements all over Ireland were all looking for dates at once.

## RTE

RADIO Telefis Eireann wanted them for a special programme titled "Talent of the Seventies", and this was filmed in Butlin's, and will be screened in the near future (probably in July).

My picture shows the boys "on the set" with Michele Walsh, well-known to RTE viewers as a dancer in many music shows. They are Tom Cauty, Dave Brown, Damien

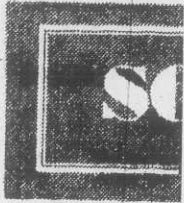
Patterson (Leader) and Tony Cremins.

They are to be congratulated on their wonderful achievement in winning this festival when the cream of Irish groups were competing for this high honour.

The Farran Folk have a very individualistic style and present an image which tends to swing away from the traditional ballad group.

Their extensive repertoire is one of their biggest assets, and they are equally at home in a rural setting or in one of Ireland's top hotels.

Here's wishing continued success to The Farran Folk—the boys who brought home to Limerick one of the most coveted awards in the Irish musical world—the "Ballad Group of the Year" title.



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OPEN FOR BOOKINGS!

# THE FARRAN FOLK

Winners of the 1970 Kilkenny Beer Festival Ballad Competition!

Apply:

Damien Patterson, Shelbourne Avenue, Limerick.